STAR WARS
REBELLION

"BOGEN ASHLA"

Story

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Teleplay

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STAR WARS: REBELLION

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ACT ONE

FADE IN:

EXT. SPACE – UNKNOWN SECTOR

The Star Destroyer *Atonement* is a complete wreck, its hull pock-marked with blackened openings. The breaches are everywhere. Hulda Caulp, Skatuhl, NUNI (a purple-skinned Zeltron girl), and other *Long Haul* veterans are working in zero-G, specks alongside the Star Destroyer, looking for something.

The *Refugee-One* is nearby, scanning the *Atonement* with infrared sensors. As the Townowi vessel passes above a section of the *Atonement* a large red glow appears: the heat signature of another mine.

HULDA CAULP
(garbled)
Found one, Captain. *Refugee-One*, cut your engines and keep it highlighted.

Nuni hits her thrusters and moves toward the red spot.

NUNI
(garbled)
Imbedded pretty deep, but I read inactive. Skatuhl, help me clean her off.

SKATUHL
(garbled)
S'slek.

BRE (V.O.)
Refugee-One here. Why don't we just tractor beam the mine off if it's inactive?

HULDA CAULP
(garbled)
Secondary sensors will pick up the motion. Safer to do it this way.

NUNI
(garbled)
Captain Destri, you'd better clear out all personnel in axial subsections 109 through 111, just in case.

DESTRI (V.O.)
Done, Nuni. How much longer until we can get out of this sector?

HULDA CAULP
(garbled)
No telling. The Empire riddled us good with that trap. I'd get General Madine on the line as soon as you can.

INT. STAR DESTROYER *ATONEMENT* – BRIDGE

Captain Tet Destri, in a new Rebel Alliance uniform, looks from the *Refugee-One* outside to the Technician below her in the communications station. The Technician shakes his head.

DESTRI
Comm's still down, Hulda. We have everything routed to our wide range scanners, in case we're being followed. Admiral Mede's orders.

INT. STAR DESTROYER *ATONEMENT* – ADMIRAL'S QUARTERS

Admiral Mede stands in front of a Chandrilic mirror in one of his original uniforms, a relic from the Old Republic. He turns slightly, pulling on the uniform in places to get a flattering fit. He smiles proudly as the blast doors to his quarter's SWISH open.

Endigo enters, with a datapad.

MEDE
Mr. Endigo, your opinion?

ENDIGO
On the Old Republic uniform?
(motioning with the datapad)
Or this?

Endigo sits at the Admiral's desk.

MEDE
The exclusivity contract. Senator Antilles thought it fair, but I realize you could make considerably more freelancing. But let me add my own personal appeal to the evolving nature of your employment. The *Atonement* is low on crew, Mr. Endigo, and your people fill it out nicely. I've reviewed your profile, and understand that you and Mr. Caulp are familiar with Imperial starships. That, in fact, you've both served aboard a few. In disguise, of course. Which brings me to the other reason I wish to retain you full-time; the talents of yourself and your crew--

ENDIGO
I've already signed off on it, Admiral.

MEDE
Very good, sir. Your performance at Sullust was--

ENDIGO
One condition, Mede. Vader. Eventually, you get me another chance at Vader.

MEDE
That shouldn't be too hard. While I'm not in the business of needlessly endangering those under my command, our activities will no doubt draw the sort of attention you want. Eventually.

An EXPLOSION outside.

Immediately, Mede hits a button on his desk.

MEDE (CONT'D)
(into a console)
Destri?

HULDA CAULP (V.O.)
(garbled)
Sorry, Admiral. Everyone's all right. We just dislodged one of the mines and blasted it from a distance.

BRE (V.O.)
Infrared says we're clear. *Refugee-One*'s going back to dock.

MEDE
Everyone report to the briefing room. Captain, get us a secured channel to Dantooine. And then move us into another sector if she can make it.

DESTRI (V.O.)
Right away, sir.

INT. STAR DESTROYER *ATONEMENT* - BRIEFING ROOM

Admiral Mede, Captain Destri, Endigo, Hulda, Skatuhl, Nuni, Two-Tau, the Technician, and several other Rebels are present, surrounding a large holoprojector table.

General Madine FLICKERS at the center of the table. Beside him are two images: an arm of the galactic map spinning in slow spirals and a damage report on the *Atonement*.

Bre, still in her TDF flight vest, enters with more Rebel Pilots while the General is in mid-sentence.

MADINE
...yet what happened to you in the Goroth system has been an awakening to our intelligence network. Alliance High Command sends its greatest apologies.

Mede nods to the General. Madine gets down to business.

MADINE (CONT'D)
Your status report indicates that the *Atonement* will not be able to reach the Rebel Base in its present condition. Unfortunately, we cannot muster a supply force to assist you at this time. There is another situation near Mutanda that requires our full attention. Therefore--
(motioning to the galactic map)
I suggest that you make for Bogen Ashla, a system not far from your position. A small Rebel cell is active there, which may be able to aid you.

MEDE
Bogen Ashla.

TECHNICIAN
(recalling the name)
We have an outpost there, as well. Er, the Empire does, I mean.

MADINE
Yes, but it is a small outpost, and not heavily equipped. Bogen Ashla is a relatively unimportant settlement in and of itself, though several factories there manufacture land assault vehicles for use elsewhere in the sector. Intel reports that Imperial security is minimal. And they're sure about it this time.

MEDE
We should still keep the *Atonement* well out of sensor range.

DESTRI
And use some of the smaller craft to contact the Rebels on Bogen Ashla.

MEDE
Who is in command of this cell?

The holographic image of PROT FERRICK appears beside the General. Ferrick is a handsome, if tired-looking, Rebel officer, human male.

MADINE
Prot Ferrick, a native of the planet. He is relatively isolated from High Command, and his operations are low priority. I'll have his contact codes beamed to you within the hour. It may very well be the first time anyone outside his system has used them.

MEDE
We'll work out the details of reaching Ferrick ourselves, General. Assuming there is trouble, is there also a back up plan?

MADINE
Providing the Empire hasn't planted another trap at Mutanda, we could theoretically get supplies out to you in another three weeks, galactic standard.

MEDE
In other words, no.

MADINE
I'm sorry, Admiral Mede. The Alliance has stretched itself too thin again. May the Force be with you. Madine out.

Madine FLICKERS out, leaving only the image of Bogen Ashla.

EXT. SPACE – BOGEN ASHLA SYSTEM

The ISD *Atonement* falls out of hyperspace into the system, though far out of sight of the planet.

INT. STAR DESTROYER *ATONEMENT* – BRIDGE

Admiral Mede looks out into space, trying to spot the bright light that is Bogen Ashla. His Technician enters.

TECHNICIAN
We are at an optimal safe distance from Bogen Ashla now, sir. Unless they have a fleet better than our intelligence suggests, I think we can expect no Imperial patrols to come out this far.

INT. STAR DESTROYER *ATONEMENT* – HANGAR BAY

Outside the atmosphere field of the hangar bay, the *Refugee-One* sits clamped to the underside of the Star Destroyer.

Destri stares at the Townowi vessel while Rebel engineers prep a pair of Y-Wing fighters for flight. Bre, Endigo, and Hulda enter.

HULDA CAULP
Captain, wouldn't it be a better idea to use our TIE fighters to sneak in?

DESTRI
The Admiral wants us to use the Y-Wings. They have hyperspace capability.

ENDIGO
So he does assume trouble.

BRE
You're coming with us, Captain?

DESTRI
I'm not as recognizable as Admiral Mede. So I guess that's your answer, Shen.

The Rebel engineers give the go sign. Artoo units are lowered into the Y-Wings and other technicians clear a path for the fighters to exit the hangar.

DESTRI (CONT'D)
Let's go. We have a flight vector that should get us to the planet safely. You are my primary, Officer Bre.

Bre smiles and begins to climb a Y-Wing ladder, refusing an Alliance flight helmet from an awaiting technician and strapping on her own TDF helmet and goggles.

BRE
Since when did I become an officer?

DESTRI
(climbing in behind her)
Today.

Endigo and Hulda climb into the other Y-Wing. Soon the fighters rise on their repulsor engines and fly out of the bay, dipping down beneath the bulk of the *Refugee-One.*

EXT. SPACE – NEAR BOGEN ASHLA

FOLLOWING THE Y-WINGS as they speed toward the blue-brown planet below them.

ON BRE AND DESTRI'S COCKPIT, as the Captain reads a console and flips a few switches on her side panels.

DESTRI
We've just got the clearance codes--

A WARNING ALERT goes off. PULL BACK as a wing of four TIE Fighters falls in behind the Y-Wings.

HULDA CAULP (V.O.)
Four more coming in at mark six.

DESTRI (V.O.)
Hold formation. Get ready.

TIE FIGHTER PILOT (V.O.)
Rebel starfighters, you know this is a restricted area. Return to the Imperial outpost immediately.

BRE (V.O.)
Um. What?

TIE FIGHTER PILOT (V.O.)
And tell Ferrick that Governor Attrebus will be waiting for him when you land.

ON BRE, turning to look behind her at Destri. The Captain shakes her head in confusion.

BRE
(whispering)
I've got a bad--

DESTRI
I know.

EXT. BOGEN ASHLA - SPACEPORT - DAY - DURING MONSOON

The unnamed spaceport of Bogen Ashla sits on a high plateau above the surrounding rainforests. It is monsoon season. There are no people out in the muddy streets, just rusting speeders and giant, patient, lizard-like beasts of burden tethered to various posts. The buildings of the spaceport are elliptical in shape, because of the planet's constant rain. Tarps and gutters run from one building to another.

An immense building stands out from the rest: the Governor's Tower, a tall bulging spire rising from a cluster of smaller oval towers and domes. The whole structure looks like a command base of some kind. From the top of one of the domes, a wide radar dish sits rusting but active. Around the dish is a shining bouquet of long chrome signal transmitters. One of the small towers of the Imperial command base is a hangar array dotted with open bays. FLICKERING NEON SIGNS hanging on its outside walls threaten forever to short out for the last time.

The TIE fighters escort the two Y-Wings into an open bay and then disappear into the dark clouds above.

INT. BOGEN ASHLA HANGAR - ON Y-WINGS

as they settle into their awaiting bay. Power droids and engineer sleds move out of the way. Imperial infantry troopers march into the hangar and take up positions around the landing Rebel starfighters.

GOVERNOR ATTREBUS, a corpulent Imperial official, and Prot Ferrick, the Rebel contact on Bogen Ashla, enter the hangar in rain-slick parkas. Ferrick is wearing an Imperial uniform under his parka. He and the Governor are arguing.

Destri, Bre, Endigo, and Hulda open their Y-Wing cockpits and start to rise. The Imperial troopers don't bother to raise their weapons.

Destri immediately notices Ferrick's strange attire. She and Endigo exchange glances. Endigo shrugs, but his hand strays toward his blaster.

GOVERNOR ATTREBUS
(approaching)
This is well outside the boundary of our agreement, Corporal Ferrick.

Ferrick and the Governor stop near Destri's Y-Wing. Ferrick gives her a stern look.

FERRICK
They know this, Governor.
(to Bre)
What were you thinking, Private Tai!

BRE
(quickly on her feet)
Sorry, sir. It started as a stupid race and, um.

FERRICK
And um is right. Consider your flight license revoked, Private. And I want to see the rest of you in my quarters at once. This one will be coming out of your vouchers.

GOVERNOR ATTREBUS
(aside to Ferrick)
Corporal Ferrick, openly flying around in marked Rebel warships cannot be tolerated. You jeopardize our delicate arrangement with this behavior.

FERRICK
I understand.

HULDA CAULP
(whispering to Endigo)
'Relatively' isolated?

FERRICK
Attrebus, she's just a kid. I swear--

GOVERNOR ATTREBUS
One more time, Ferrick. One more.

FERRICK
You think I want this, either? Let me handle it. This can go away, Governor.

GOVERNOR ATTREBUS
(to Imperial trooper)
Modify our patrol reports.

The Governor begins to exit, an Imperial trooper rushing to his side with a parasol.

GOVERNOR ATTREBUS (CONT'D)
Ferrick, consider my stipend doubled for the next twelve shipments.

Prot Ferrick grimaces but bows. Destri and the others are escorted to his side. The Rebels leave together.

INT. BOGEN ASHLA HANGAR - HALLWAY

Ferrick makes for another bay, where an airspeeder awaits. Two Rebels in civilian garb casually salute as he nears them. Destri comes up behind Ferrick, mad.

DESTRI
'The Gundark was having trouble sleeping.' But I guess you don't really need that, do you?

FERRICK
Three guesses what I <u>don't</u> really need.

FADE OUT.

<u>END OF ACT ONE</u>

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

EXT. SPACE – ABOVE BOGEN ASHLA

A wing of TIE fighters SCREAMS PAST in patrol formation above the planet.

EXT. BOGEN ASHLA – SPACEPORT – DAY – DURING MONSOON

PAN ACROSS THE SPACEPORT PLATEAU to a brightly lit building, a saucer-shaped saloon. Half of the squashed ellipsoid structure is hanging off the plateau, suspended above the treetops far below. The building is split across its diameter so that the top half acts as a ceiling to the railed floor and balcony of its bottom half. Multiple entrances lead in from this balcony to the saloon's interior, where AMBIENT CONVERSATION and MUSIC is barely heard above the monsoon.

INT. BOGEN ASHLA SALOON – DAY - DURING MONSOON

The interior of the saloon is spacious but crowded with patrons. The décor tries to capture the natural habitat of the forest outside, while retaining a better level of comfort. Most of the saloon is wood, painted with strange swirling symbols. Handcrafted furniture of the native style break up the main area, glowing warmly under paper-lights held aloft by artificial vines. The customers, mostly local factory workers, are singing, dancing, drinking, and talking. Servant droids move from table to table, refilling orders or taking new ones. Imperials are present, some with the usual haughty demeanors and others seemingly oblivious. Occasionally one of the window tarps will burst open, bringing with it a sheet of rain, and more droids will rush to close them off again.

Endigo and Hulda are seated at a curved table, a datapad in front of them. Bre walks over with a drink, wet from head to toe.

BRE
Shut up. Destri finally got Ferrick's attention. They're coming over now. Able to reach Mede yet?

HULDA CAULP
Not with his distance and this storm.

BRE
Maybe Ferrick has some kind of power comm station we can use.

Bre sits down and points out Captain Destri and Prot Ferrick. Ferrick keeps stopping to talk to various patrons. Destri looks annoyed. She finally gives up and stalks over to the table.

DESTRI
Get that readout ready, Hulda. It looks like we'll only be getting a few minutes of the Corporal's time.

Ferrick appears from the crowd behind the Captain. He takes a seat at the table. Hulda slides him the datapad.

FERRICK
(scanning it off-handedly)
I'm sorry, Destri. Covering up your arrival involves a little more than just a patrol modification. There are other Imperial officials besides the Governor that I need to remain corrupt.

Four men enter the saloon in Rebel uniforms. Some of the Imperials look over and narrow their eyes. Other Imperials look over and smile proudly. Ferrick shakes his head.

FERRICK (CONT'D)
Great. Way to preserve the illusion, fellas.
(to the others)
I've tried to get them to stop wearing those....

BRE
I don't get it.

FERRICK
What?

BRE
First, it's like you're doing this double agent thing at the hangar, but then they don't arrest us. And here. Your men in their Imperial get-ups. Not doing a very good act other than the clothes. No one in the Empire smiles that much.
(re: Rebel officers)
Finally, we got the righteous brigade.

FERRICK
I'll explain later.

DESTRI
(motioning to the datapad)
Please do. That's a full supply manifest of the--

FERRICK
Where is that monstrosity?

DESTRI
The *Atonement*? She is safely out of--

FERRICK
I meant Admiral Mede.

Ferrick finishes reading the datapad and looks up. Destri and the others are staring at him coldly.

BRE
Room to talk, considering your little mixer here.

FERRICK
Room enough. None of my bedfellows ever depopulated a planet.

DESTRI
We were ordered to come here by General Madine--

FERRICK
Never heard of him. That's how the smaller cells work, Destri. I only report to someone in the Trax Sector who reports to I don't know who. And you can forget about this parts manifest. There's no way I can fill this order.

DESTRI
Without the Governor finding out.

FERRICK
Forget Attrebus. I'm talking about the ISB. Parts falling off a Nen-Carvon CAV every now and then, I can do that.

Ferrick motions to a SERVANT DROID, who nods.

FERRICK (CONT'D)
And with enough time and enough credits to the local prefect of transportation, the Rebellion adds a new gravtank to their arsenal. But what you're asking....
(beat)
Look, I do my part. In the past, I did a lot more. Getting the local Imperials to listen to me wasn't easy. My cell made a lot of noise before the Governor and I reached our current understanding.

DESTRI
Good for you.

ENDIGO
The *Atonement*, as bad as she is, can handle the local Imperials, Ferrick.

FERRICK
I'm sure. And I'm sure she'll be around to help us with the aftermath. What are you, anyway?

ENDIGO
Fed up with your mouth. For starters.

The servant droid brings Ferrick a cup of cognac. Destri calms herself. She starts slowly, trying to break the tension.

DESTRI
Ferrick, I appreciate your situation. I do. In a lot of ways, you're fighting this war better than we are. But other systems aren't as lucky as you. How much money do you need to make that manifest happen? We can get it.

FERRICK
But you don't get it. It doesn't matter if you can afford to buy every factory on this planet! The Governor would never go for it, and I would never ask him. Asking him leads to questions I don't want to answer.
(taking a sip)
Namely, who you really are. Which leads to your affiliation with Titus Mede. Which leads straight to high treason, a charge no one can buy off. I saw what happened to Townowi. Excuse me if I want to keep my homeworld intact.

A glass SHATTERS by Ferrick's head. Bre storms off.

FERRICK (CONT'D)
(to himself)
Damn it.
(to Bre)
I'm sorry.

The Rebel officers and Imperials look over to Ferrick's table. He waves them off. Destri, fuming, starts to go after Bre. Endigo stops her.

ENDIGO
(rising)
I'll go get her.

Captain Destri sits down. Ferrick takes another drink, and then leans his face behind the cup, shaking his head.

FERRICK
I’m sorry. That was out of line.

DESTRI
(taking the datapad back)
Just get us back to our fighters, Ferrick.

FERRICK
No. Come on.
(sighing)
Let me see that again.

EXT. BOGEN ASHLA SALOON – DAY - DURING MONSOON

Bre finds a relatively dry spot on the balcony outside, under a row of tarps. She goes over to the balcony railing and stairs down into the forest trees. Endigo comes out and stands beside her. He looks over, but doesn’t say anything.

MACROBINOCULAR POV: same scene, but from some distance away, obscured a little by the torrential rain. Endigo puts his arm around Bre.

GOVERNOR ATTREBUS (O.S.)
TD something. TDF. What does that mean?

IMPERIAL TROOPER (O.S.)
I’m not sure, sir.

GOVERNOR ATTREBUS (O.S.)
It’s no acronym I know from <u>this</u> sector.

EXT. GOVERNOR’S TOWER – BALCONY – DAY – DURING MONSOON

Governor Attrebus is seated in a wicker-like chair on his own balcony. An overhang prevents the rain from hitting him, but the IMPERIAL TROOPER beside him has a parasol over his head anyway.

The Governor puts down the macrobinoculars for a second.

IMPERIAL TROOPER
The prefect has checked Ferrick's ship registries. Those Y-Wings are new to Bogen Ashla, sir.

GOVERNOR ATTREBUS
And the big one. There, with 'Private Tai.'

He raises his macrobinoculars again.

GOVERNOR ATTREBUS (CONT'D)
Smugglers? Off-world Rebels?

IMPERIAL TROOPER
The older lady, sir. She was wearing a Rebel uniform.

The Governor presses a button on top of the macrobinoculars with a CLICK. He hands them to the Imperial Trooper.

GOVERNOR ATTREBUS
Run this through our database and see if it can identify them.
(beat)
But don't scan it through the Imperial network yet.

IMPERIAL TROOPER
No?

GOVERNOR ATTREBUS
(shaking his head)
Not yet. I don't want the Security Bureau down here until I know what Ferrick is up to.

EXT. SPACE - BOGEN ASHLA SYSTEM

The ISD *Atonement* hasn't moved.

INT. STAR DESTROYER *ATONEMENT* - BRIDGE

Neither has Admiral Mede. New Bridge Officers enter through the turbolift elevators, switching shifts.

The Technician YAWNS, but he goes to look at the tactical grid. A small RED BLIP BLINKS on a satellite display of Bogen Ashla. The storm front simulation moves in interrupted patterns.

TECHNICIAN
Still no way to reach them, Admiral. But Captain Destri's emergency beacon is transmitting fine.

MEDE
(not turning around)
Very odd, though.

TECHNICIAN
What, sir?

MEDE
The beacon. It is transmitting from the Imperial outpost.

The Technician looks from the grid to the Admiral and back again. He frowns.

TECHNICIAN
We could launch a probe droid. See what is going on.

MEDE
That might only endanger them further. Look to the left of Destri's signal. On the peninsula.

The Technician traces a finger to the indicated spot. Small black splotches mark out some sort of manmade structure.

TECHNICIAN
Yes, sir?

MEDE
According to our intelligence reports, that should be Prot Ferrick's base on Bogen Ashla.

TECHNICIAN
But we're getting no life form readings from that location.

MEDE
Right. Destri hasn't activated her emergency beacon because she's telling us to wait. So we wait.

INT. BOGEN ASHLA SALOON – DAY - DURING MONSOON

Endigo and Bre reenter the saloon. Destri, Hulda, and Ferrick are not at the table. Endigo and Bre look around, but no one seems to have noticed. Finally, the servant droid comes through the crowd and stands before them.

SERVANT DROID
Master Ferrick and your companions have retired to his private chambers elsewhere in the city.

ENDIGO
Why didn't they come and get us?

SERVANT DROID
(to Bre)
Master Ferrick thought it best that you should enjoy the full duration of your respite without interruption.
(to Endigo)
Would you like me to send for an airspeeder now, sir?

BRE
My what?

VOICES DIM as Governor Attrebus and his Imperial troopers enter the saloon. The Governor points out Endigo.

GOVERNOR ATTREBUS
Arrest that man.

Endigo doesn't move. Other Imperial troopers get up from the crowd around him and pull out their blasters. Bre looks around at the various Rebel officers. They start to get up, pushing back their chairs. The Rebels in Imperial uniforms do the same. The real Imperials still seated rise as well.

No one seems to know what to do, whether to stand down or advance. Endigo is put into binders and led towards the entrance without resistance. Bre starts to follow. The Governor holds a hand up and she stops.

GOVERNOR ATTREBUS (CONT'D)
You're free to go, Private Tai. Find Ferrick and Captain Destri. Tell them that dinner is served at sundown.

Endigo looks back at Bre and nods for her to stay. He, the Governor, and the Imperial troopers exit into the rain.

EXT. BOGEN ASHLA – SPACEPORT – DAY – DURING MONSOON

Endigo is taken to a carriage, drawn by a team of lizard beasts. Attrebus stops under the carriage's doorframe.

INT./EXT. GOVERNOR'S CARRIAGE – DAY – DURING MONSOON

Other Imperial troopers are already in the carriage.

GOVERNOR ATTREBUS
(shaking out his parasol)
I expected more resistance from you, Shen Endigo.

The Governor HUFFS as he slumps his bulk into his seat, taking a towel from one of his men. The driver outside gives a SHOUT and the carriage starts to move away.

ENDIGO
Give it time.

GOVERNOR ATTREBUS
I mean, I understand the initial hesitation. 'Does he have the others already?' 'At what cost, should I move against him now?' But, after I told the girl to pass along my invitation, and you knew that they were safe-- that's when I thought you would react.... Respect for the surrounding clientele?

ENDIGO
Maybe the Rebel half.

GOVERNOR ATTREBUS
Come now. You've worked for the Empire. The wayward student. What is it called? 'Jedi'..?

ENDIGO
No Jedis left, Governor.

GOVERNOR ATTREBUS
But you have their powers.

ENDIGO
Just the little ones.

GOVERNOR ATTREBUS
Please detach your lightsaber, sir.

ENDIGO
(motioning with the binders)
Left hand. You'll have to do it.

The Governor hesitates. He tries not to shy away from the mercenary's outstretched hands.

ENDIGO (CONT'D)
Come on. Blue button. Spin it and push.

As a glance from Attrebus, an Imperial trooper reaches over to detach the hand.

ENDIGO (CONT'D)
Actually, it goes all the way to the upper forearm. You'll have to take off the binders.

The Imperials aren't sure what to do. Endigo SIGHS.

ENDIGO (CONT'D)
Take <u>both</u> hands off already.

The Governor nods to his men that this is a good idea. They begin to remove Endigo's hands. Attrebus sits back. The binders come off.

The Imperial troopers have trouble with the left hand, so Endigo reaches over and helps them. They get the right hand off without any trouble.

Outside the driver strikes one of the rear lizards, which SQUAKS. The downpour is at its peak.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

EXT. SPACE – ABOVE BOGEN ASHLA

ESTABLISHING SHOT of the planet again. The storm clouds are dark, furious, and visible from orbit.

INT. BOGEN ASHLA – FERRICK'S SECRET BASE – NIGHT

Prot Ferrick leads Hulda and Captain Destri through a subterranean passage, lit by floater lamps and braced with arched metal frames. It is wet and misty inside the tunnel. Droplets of rain fall from the ceiling, collecting into muddy puddles. The trio approaches a well-lit, wide-open area. Rebels move through the passage the opposite way, some on foot, others on tracked cargo haulers. All nod to Ferrick as he passes. Some stare at the newcomers.

FERRICK
(motioning above)
We're almost on the outskirts of the spaceport. Above us now should be the city gates. This passage is ray-shielded and jammed on a limited-range ghostband projector. Attrebus doesn't know about this place at all.

The wide-open area is an underground warehouse. Nen-Carvon CAV (Compact Assault Vehicles) tanks line either side of the warehouse. In the center of the chamber is the front half of a large Mobile Command Base, missing a windshield and set up on reinforced cargo crates. Alliance symbols adorn the crates, a plastic stencil leaning against one, its outline edged with red paint.

FERRICK (CONT'D)
So I lied about sending the Alliance every tank we build. Our cell has been stockpiling some for another offensive.

DESTRI
When is this to happen?

They pass by an Imperial Scout Walker, camouflaged in a coat of gray-blue paint the color of rain. A Bogen Ashla pattern is boldly imprinted on the walker's front faceplate, a swirling target. Beside the Scout Walker is the CAV-sized head of an AT-AT, stripped for parts. The warehouse eventually starts to descend sharply into another, even larger, area of Ferrick's secret base.

FERRICK
Hopefully, it won't. But it's just easier to rest at night admitting to myself that my truce with the Governor won't last forever.

The larger area becomes level. It is an infrastructure hemisphere of metal, transparisteel, and exposed power columns. Catwalks and control platforms are held together by support beams or suspended from the ceiling by woven metallic cords. Everything in this area seems to be still in the earliest stages of completion. Ferrick begins to ascend an unfinished ramp.

FERRICK (CONT'D)
Before the Empire nationalized most of the colonial industries, Bogen Ashla was a small-scale military contractor.

Ferrick stops in front of a set of computer terminals. Tactical grids and mismatched flight chairs surround the array.

FERRICK (CONT'D)
Attrebus was appointed regional governor of this system maybe two years ago. He established the Imperial outpost here very quickly, displacing our duly elected representatives and setting up his garrison without much resistance. He achieved that rather smoothly: he merely raised the wages of the factory workers and kept the usual Imperial regulations and restrictions to a minimum. He even hired members of the local militia to fill out his garrison. I was chief of security at the time, not particularly partisan, and was looking at a pay increase that would have been stupid to pass up. I became an Imperial.

Ferrick takes a seat at a chair and starts fiddling with its flight stick.

FERRICK (CONT'D)
That whole deal had the half-life of a sneeze. Attrebus got firmly entrenched and the benefits evaporated. Then things got worse. Same thing you hear on every backwater planet like mine. Finally that Alliance op in Trax contacts me and funds an unscheduled revolution... and we hit them hard. We fall back and create a base far from here to regroup. The garrison gets split between us newly christened rebels and the Governor's loyalists.

Destri leans against another chair, but it wobbles a little so she just stands.

FERRICK (CONT'D)
With more support from Trax, we come back to the city and hit Attrebus even harder. This time, though, the cost of fighting just gets too high. So the Governor and I call a truce.

Hulda begins to examine all the equipment on the control platform.

FERRICK (CONT'D)
On the official Imperial record, all resistance on this planet vanishes due to the cunning victories of Governor Attrebus. And that's chapter one of the civil war story of Bogen Ashla.

DESTRI
So you provide the Alliance with ordnance and the Governor looks the other way. Provided he gets a cut from your Alliance fund.

FERRICK
Right. I don't interfere with his overt exploitation and he doesn't interfere with my covert insurrection.

DESTRI
But now we're here.

FERRICK
Yep. Chapter two.

DESTRI
(looking around)
So why are we here here?

HULDA CAULP
This is a ship.

FERRICK
Right. Your meal ticket. We've been building this escape route ever since the armistice. It's a ratty pile of junk, but it could be spaceworthy given enough time. And it has enough energy reserves to get your Star Destroyer the boost it needs to get to High Command.

Destri doesn't know quite what to say. Ferrick's face is unreadable. Hulda purses his lips, not sure if the "ship" around him will work at all.

Two Rebel officers run in after Bre. She is out of breath. Hulda takes one look and lifts his wrist radio.

HULDA CAULP
Shen?

EXT. GOVERNOR'S TOWER – NIGHT – DURING MONSOON

Some aspect of the material of the Bogen Ashla structures gives them a luminous quality at night. The Imperial outpost and the Governor's tower glows dimly in the rain. The monsoon has let up a little, and patches of stars can be seen along the horizon.

ENDIGO (V.O.)
You're almost late for supper, Hulda. Bre will fill you in.

HULDA CAULP (V.O.)
Where are you?

INT. TOWER DETENTION CELL

Endigo is lying down on a slab of metal that has extruded from the detention cell wall. He is staring at the ceiling. His hands are still missing.

ENDIGO
Governor's dungeon. No hands, but don't worry. I've already figured a way out.

HULDA CAULP (V.O.)
So why are you staying put?

ENDIGO
I'm formulating the plan.

HULDA CAULP (V.O.)
Which plan?

ENDIGO
Dunno. That's why I'm not wrecking the place. I need you to meet the Governor.

HULDA CAULP (V.O.)
And find out what he wants.

ENDIGO
Yeah, then I figure out the most painful way to give it to him.

INT. BOGEN ASHLA – FERRICK'S SECRET BASE – NIGHT

Hulda, Destri, Bre, and Ferrick are standing on the control platform of the half-finished underground starship. Bre is anxious, Destri concerned, and Ferrick puzzled.

HULDA CAULP
(into wrist radio)
Fine, boss. You'll hear the whole conversation over your transceiver. Stay in touch.

FERRICK
How did you get past my jamming fields?

HULDA CAULP
Endigo wasn't built cheap, Corporal.
(to Bre)
I guess we should be getting hungry by now.

BRE
Shouldn't we talk to the Admiral first?

FERRICK
Our communications systems aren't <u>that</u> functional yet. Sorry.

DESTRI
Let's go, then. I still don't exactly understand why the Governor arrested Shen to get our attention. Why didn't he just ask us to come and see him?

INT. GOVERNOR'S TOWER – DINING HALL – NIGHT

Destri, Hulda, Bre, and Prot Ferrick are all seated at the dining table of Governor Attrebus. The room is sparsely furnished: the table itself, a nearby wine stand, and the decorated arch of the balcony opening.

Hulda has his elbows on the table, casually allowing his wrist radio to pick up a clear transmission.

GOVERNOR ATTREBUS
--so I could inform you that Shen Endigo was staying on Bogen Ashla while you were going to leave immediately. ISB Agents are already in transit. They will be here tomorrow morning to take Endigo into custody.

DESTRI
We'll leave, but not without him.

GOVERNOR ATTREBUS
Yes you will, Captain Destri. Or the Security Bureau will be retrieving a dead Shen Endigo. Have another bauble of wine. It will become clearer that way.

FERRICK
Attrebus, I don't see the point in--

GOVERNOR ATTREBUS
The point, Ferrick, is that Endigo is a <u>real</u> rebel. He is dangerous, uncompromising, and not willing to make the same mockery of himself and his own ideals that you have.

BRE
Talking without saying anything. Do you practice that?

GOVERNOR ATTREBUS
<u>Considerably</u>. Otherwise I couldn't create that chilling undertone of inevitability you feel crawling up your spine so effortlessly, Private Tai. The simple fact is, you will return to the *Atonement* and leave my system shortly after the last dessert is served.

BRE
Then we have <u>plenty</u> of time, taking into account your <u>considerably</u> fat--

DESTRI
Bre. Governor, if you're so worried that the ISB will find out your deal with Ferrick, why not just let Endigo go with us and be done with it?

GOVERNOR ATTREBUS
Because handing such a prize over to the Emperor will get me the promotion I need and make Bogen Ashla only a bad memory. Endigo leaves with them, I depart for a garden world, and my secret is safe with a Ferrick now fully engaged in trying to hide from whatever new governor that is appointed to this dreary middle of nowhere.

DESTRI
What makes you think Endigo won't give you up after he's taken into custody?

GOVERNOR ATTREBUS
As I understand it, he is paid to protect the Rebellion. Revealing my indiscretions also reveals there is still an active Alliance cell on Bogen Ashla. Endigo will not say a word.

A short lull follows. Hulda lifts his empty bauble to the Governor and motions to the wine stand.

GOVERNOR ATTREBUS
Feel free.

Hulda goes and pours himself some more wine. The DISCUSSION DIMS behind him. As he lifts the wine bauble to his lips he whispers into his wrist radio.

HULDA CAULP
(whispering)
Catch all that?

ON WRIST RADIO, Hulda far enough away for no one to notice.

ENDIGO (V.O.)
Yeah. This will be easy. Listen....

BACK TO MAIN.

Attrebus looks smugly at Captain Destri. Ferrick is silent but fuming, still humiliated by the Governor's comments. Bre looks like she's going to pull her blaster out at any second. Hulda comes back to the table.

DESTRI
The *Atonement* can get here long before the Security Bureau, Governor. If you--

HULDA CAULP
Come on, Destri. If we make a move like that, the rest of this world will suffer for it. Let's go.

Destri looks over, shocked. Hulda looks too earnest for her not to catch on. Hulda then looks at the Governor, his face setting into an angry stare.

HULDA CAULP (CONT'D)
Much luck on that promotion. We'll be watching for it.

GOVERNOR ATTREBUS
(unimpressed)
Your fighters are waiting for you at the hangar. Give my regards to Admiral Mede. Ferrick will show you the way out.

The Rebels begin to exit to the foyer. Ferrick looks perplexed and defeated, furious at Hulda for giving up. The Governor smiles and goes back to his dinner.

INT. GOVERNOR'S TOWER – FOYER - NIGHT

The foyer is empty except for a few potted plants collected from the rainforest. The Rebels move toward an elevator.

FERRICK
How? How can you leave your--

HULDA CAULP
Like this.

(to Destri)
Emergency beacon.

Destri hands it over, a small metal disc. Hulda throws it into a potted plant. Bre presses the elevator controls.

BRE
Is he in that shadow mode again?

HULDA CAULP
Perpetually.
(to Ferrick)
Make sure no one is guarding our Y-Wings.
(to Destri)
Get in contact with the Artoo units.

The elevator doors open and all move inside.

HULDA CAULP
(to Ferrick)
If you had to guess, how serious would you say chapter two gets?

FERRICK
Citizens go into hiding. Then rebel troops get mustered in thirty minutes. And the tanks are primed an hour after that. By morning, there’s an army.

HULDA CAULP
(into wrist radio)
Whenever you’re ready, Shen.

The elevator doors close.

INT. TOWER DETENTION CELL

Endigo sits up and slides off the slab. He looks over at the slab controls and closes his eyes. A switch on the controls flips up and the slab disappears into the wall. Then Endigo BANGS on the cell’s blast doors.

INT. TOWER DETENTION CENTER

Endigo’s cell is one of four in a small alcove off to the side of the detention duty post. A DETENTION GUARD looks over irritatingly at Endigo’s racket and then presses a button on his command console.

DETENTION GUARD
What’s your problem?

ENDIGO (V.O.)
Sleepy.

DETENTION GUARD
And that’s a problem?

ENDIGO (V.O.)
It is when you have no hands and you can’t manipulate the rest platform controls.

DETENTION GUARD
(sighing)
Wait a second.

INT./EXT. TOWER DETENTION CELL

Endigo’s cell doors open and the Detention Guard appears with his blaster out. Immediately the blaster soars from his grasp to CLATTER on the back wall. Endigo kicks the Detention Guard across the jaw. The Detention Guard flies into alcove outside.

The Detention Guard tries to scramble to his feet but Endigo walks out of the cell behind him, using the Force to throw the Detention Guard into one wall and then across into another.

The Detention Guard collapses. Endigo walks over and steps on his neck, pinning his face to the floor.

ENDIGO
Two things I want from you.

The Detention Guard points across the room to a set of lockers. A security number pad is on each locker.

DETENTION GUARD
Topmost right. Security code is 327.

INT. BOGEN ASHLA HANGAR- NIGHT – DURING MONSOON

The *Atonement*'s two Y-Wings fly out of their bay and veer towards the night sky. The rain is heavy again.

INT. GOVERNOR'S TOWER – DINING HALL – NIGHT

Attrebus is wiping his face off with a napkin when an IMPERIAL AIDE enters.

IMPERIAL AIDE
Mede's people have left Bogen Ashla, sir. They entered into hyperspace as soon as they left the atmosphere.

GOVERNOR ATTREBUS
Thank you. Wake me when you detect the ISB transports on our scanners.

INT. GOVERNOR'S TOWER – HALLWAY – NIGHT

Two Imperial troopers patrol a darkened hallway somewhere in the Governor's tower. They round a bend into a different passageway and go OFF-SCREEN. WE HEAR a lightsaber IGNITE OFF-SCREEN from that passageway. WE HEAR the WARPING SOUND of it swinging twice.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

EXT. SPACE – BOGEN ASHLA SYSTEM – ON THE TWO Y-WINGS

as they return to the Star Destroyer *Atonement.*

INT. STAR DESTROYER *ATONEMENT* – HANGAR BAY

An ENGINEER guides the Y-Wings in with hand lights. Suddenly, he stops. He looks confused: the Y-Wing cockpits are empty. The starfighters come to a rest. One of the Artoo units spins its head over to the Engineer and WHISTLES a string of commands. The Engineer lifts out his comlink.

ENGINEER
Uh. Admiral Mede?

INT. STAR DESTROYER *ATONEMENT* – BRIDGE

Mede is standing in the same place, staring at the same star. A mouse droid rolls over the floor to him and CHIRPS. He looks down and nods. The mouse droid projects the holographic head and shoulders of Tet Destri into a space just above it.

DESTRI
Mede, this is the only way we could contact you. As you may have guessed, the situation here on Bogen Ashla is complicated. We have access to an energy resource that can restore the *Atonement*'s main drive reactor, but we may need your help to get it off-planet. Endigo will be contacting you in a few hours with the rest of the details. Don't move into the system until then. That's all for now.

The image FLICKERS out. Mede turns back to the viewports.

EXT. SPACE – NEAR BOGEN ASHLA

Two *Gamma*-class Assault Shuttles fall out of hyperspace.

HANGAR OFFICER (V.O.)
ISB assault shuttles, you are clear to enter hangar bay 0926.

EXT. BOGEN ASHLA SPACEPORT – DAWN – DURING MONSOON

PAN ACROSS the spaceport to the Governor's command base. The ISB *Gamma* shuttles drop down and head for the hangar.

INT. BOGEN ASHLA – ESCAPE SHIP – DAWN

Hulda, Bre, and some other Rebels are running systems checks all over Ferrick's haphazardly constructed escape ship. They are scattered across the control platforms and the catwalks. Some have climbed up syntheropes to check on the exposed power columns with handscanners. Hulda sits on one of the flight chairs, struggles to keep it stable, and taps out a sequence on its command console. A huge concave vector display appears in front of him, showing the outside world in wireframe.

A Rebel technician, checking a line of energy cells, stands bisected by the glowing vector lines. Bre is jittery. She runs up to Hulda and stares at the environment projector with a frown on her face.

BRE
We don't even have a viewport?

HULDA CAULP
We're basically one big engine cluster and a flight stick.

Destri enters.

DESTRI
Ferrick's in position. Endigo?

HULDA CAULP
Says he's near the outpost comm station. Says the ISB goons are landing now. And the airspeeder's prepped for flight, Captain.

BRE
Why didn't he just get out of there?

HULDA CAULP
Chori, we've only barely managed to get this tug online. She has no deflector shields, no weapons, nothing to keep the ISB from ripping her up come the maiden voyage.
(trying to calm Bre)
Shen knows what he's doing. He's there because we need to stay in contact with Mede. Now. Sit down and let me show you how this works real quick-like so I can get to the airspeeder.

BRE
No! I want to pick him up.

HULDA CAULP
Fine. Better I stay here anyway, in case this--

Bre starts to run off.

HULDA CAULP (CONT'D)
Wait! Take these!

Bre catches Hulda's wrist controls and exits.

DESTRI
Okay, Hulda. Quick-like.

INT. GOVERNOR'S TOWER - HANGAR BAY 0926 - DAWN

The *Gamma*-class shuttles have landed. ISB Agents file out, followed by Imperial Stormtroopers. ISB AGENT KASLEI frowns at the Governor Attrebus and his slovenly troopers.

ISB AGENT KASLEI
Where is the prisoner?

The Governor motions for Kaslei to follow.

GOVERNOR ATTREBUS
(to Imperial trooper)
Ready Endigo for prisoner transfer.

PAN ABOVE to the ceiling, where Endigo watches from a support beam. Attrebus and the ISB Agents exit. Endigo goes over to the wall and reaches for an open ventilation shaft.

EXT. BOGEN ASHLA – SPACEPORT – DAWN – DURING MONSOON

MOVE TO the city gates and their guard towers. A radar dish spins on the top of each tower, slinging rain around.

INT./ EXT. CITY GATE GUARD TOWER – DAWN – DURING MONSOON

Two Imperial Troopers man one of the towers. IMPERIAL TROOPER ONE's comlink TRILLS.

IMPERIAL TROOPER ONE
Beta Tower.

UNKNOWN VOICE (V.O.)
Storm coming.

IMPERIAL TROOPER ONE
Roger that. I'll check the dish.

IMPERIAL TROOPER TWO looks outside.

IMPERIAL TROOPER TWO
I don't see anything.

Imperial Trooper One goes over to the control panel and quietly flips a switch.

Outside, the radar dishes stop spinning.

Inside, Imperial Trooper One shrugs his shoulders and looks outside as well.

IMPERIAL TROOPER ONE
Me neither. But I'm going to get my rations in case we get stuck in here.

Imperial Trooper One leaves the guard tower and goes down a flight of steps to the top of the city wall. He starts walking faster. He pulls out his comlink again, running.

IMPERIAL TROOPER ONE
Cue thunder.

EXT. BOGEN ASHLA – OUTSKIRTS

An army of Nen-Carvon CAV tanks begins to roll towards the spaceport. Prot Ferrick is in his parka again, standing out of the top hatch of the AT-ST Scout Walker.

FERRICK
They don't see us. Break it wide.

EXT. BOGEN ASHLA – SPACEPORT – DAWN – DURING MONSOON

MULTIPLE ARTILLERY REPORTS in the distance. The twin guard towers and the city gates soon EXPLODE.

INT. GOVERNOR'S TOWER – HALLWAY – DAWN – DURING MONSOON

The hallway begins to SHAKE as more ARTILLERY BLASTS rock the city. ISB Agent Kaslei and Governor Attrebus stumble INTO VIEW. An IMPERIAL TROOPER enters.

IMPERIAL TROOPER
Endigo is--

GOVERNOR ATTREBUS
What is going on outside?!

IMPERIAL TROOPER
It's Ferrick, sir.

The ISB Agents look over at the Governor. One of them pulls out a handscanner and levels it at Attrebus. Imperial Stormtroopers enter. The hallway SHAKES again. On the handscanner is an outline of the Governor, with pulse readouts and brain wave patterns.

ISB AGENT KASLEI
I thought you had suppressed the rebel forces here, Governor.

GOVERNOR ATTREBUS
Mr. Ferrick, a rebel! Ha! He is a smuggler, perhaps, a criminal, if, if only I could catch him at it. B-but he's no rebel!

The ISB Agent with the handscanner looks over at Kaslei and shakes his head. WE HEAR A RISING PULSE from the handscanner as the Governor backs away, waving his hands.

GOVERNOR ATTREBUS (CONT'D)
C-consider the situation here! My post attacked! Of course that thing would--

Kaslei looks over to a stormtrooper and nods. The Governor is BLASTED. He falls smoking to the floor.

ISB AGENT KASLEI
(to Imperial Trooper)
What were you saying about Endigo?

IMPERIAL TROOPER
He has escaped his detention cell.

ISB AGENT KASLEI
(to stormtrooper)
Take Attrebus to my shuttle.
(to other ISB Agents)
Find Endigo and dispose of him.

INT. GOVERNOR'S TOWER - COMM STATION - DAWN

Vidscreens are everywhere. ALARMS SOUND. Several Imperials are monitoring the ground battle going on in the spaceport outside. Endigo drops from above and INTO VIEW, lightsaber lit and blaster out. He slashes open the Imperial closest to him while BLASTING away at the others.

EXT. SPACE - BOGEN ASHLA SYSTEM

The Star Destroyer *Atonement* begins to move at maximum.

INT. STAR DESTROYER *ATONEMENT* - BRIDGE

Mede motions for his Bridge Officers to move into position.

MEDE (CONT'D)
We read you, Mr. Endigo. And we'll be there very soon.

ENDIGO (V.O.)
Target the Governor’s Tower at the center of the Imperial outpost.

MEDE
I hesitate to fire on the spaceport with that storm raging all over our sensors. We might hit a civilian structure.

ENDIGO (V.O.)
Already thought of that, Admiral. The emergency beacon is about to go off. Use it as a crosshair.

MEDE
If you say so, Mr. Endigo.

EXT. BOGEN ASHLA – SPACEPORT – DAWN – DURING MONSOON

Ferrick’s army has moved into the city, his CAV tanks taking potshots at Imperial Walkers. The AT-ATs are having a difficult time with the muddy streets. Lizard beasts scurry away from the foot of an Imperial Walker as Rebel and Imperial troopers fire at each other from behind cracked domes, beneath tarps, and in the rain gutters, muddy water up to their waists. Ferrick’s Scout Walker strides from behind a tower and opens fire on an enemy tank. Its turret swings around just before it EXPLODES.

INT. BOGEN ASHLA – ESCAPE SHIP – DAWN

Hulda and Destri watch the large environmental holodisplay before them. A HIGH-PITCHED WHINE begins as the wireframe image of a rocky wall begins to thread apart, slowly revealing a vectored interpretation of the top of the rainforest trees outside. The environmental imager has a hard time rendering each droplet of the monsoon.

DESTRI
Move this beast.

HULDA CAULP
Do my best, Captain.

EXT. BOGEN ASHLA – SPACEPORT PLATEAU – DAWN – DURING MONSOON

FROM BELOW THE RAINFOREST CANOPY, as a section of the spaceport plateau above begins to break away, one DEMOLITION CHARGE after another. As all the dust and rock falls away, a giant hole appears in the plateau wall. Ferrick's escape ship emerges: a rectangular bulk with no viewports, its hull a metal quilt of mismatched armored plates. Its aft engines trail a billowy black cylinder of smoke as the funneled sublights below it SPUTTER, SPIT FIRE, and then gradually lift it towards the plateau's lip.

EXT. BOGEN ASHLA – SPACEPORT – DAWN – DURING MONSOON

Bre's borrowed airspeeder dodges the laserfire of an AT-AT and makes for the Governor's Tower. Below, columns of mud are launched into the sky by ARTILLERY BLASTS.

INT. GOVERNOR'S TOWER – HANGAR BAY 0926 – DAWN

ISB Agent Keslei and his stormtroopers are returning to their *Gamma* shuttles with a wounded Governor Attrebus. Before they can board, they notice blast doors to their hangar starting to close, GRINDING with rust.

ISB AGENT KASLEI
Hurry and get the Governor aboard. We'll take him to Imperial Center, and let the Navy deal with this.

INT. GOVERNOR'S TOWER – COMM STATION – DAWN

Endigo has a finger on a button below the vidscreen of hangar bay 0926. He presses more buttons and then exits.

INT./EXT. FERRICK'S SCOUT WALKER

Bre's airspeeder passes over Ferrick's Scout Walker, and the Corporal sees it vanish from his viewports. Ferrick turns the AT-ST's head towards the Governor's Tower. Several TIE Fighters EXPLODE as they try to emerge from hangar bays and impact on the closing blast doors.

Ferrick tracks ISB Agent Kaslei's *Gamma* Assault Shuttle, which barely escapes the doors, and opens fire. The ISB *Gamma* hits the volley and its shields FLARE, but it returns fire and hits Ferrick's Scout Walker in the leg hard, a small EXPLOSION, and finally rockets into the clouds above.

INT. BOGEN ASHLA – ESCAPE SHIP – DAWN

Destri and Hulda see the wireframe spaceport below them now. Hulda flips a switch and the holo-interface changes, dividing into separate screens, each one showing a hotspot of the ground battle. Destri points to Ferrick's screen.

HULDA CAULP
Ferrick? *Meal Ticket* here.

FERRICK (V.O.)
Troubles of my own, Hulda.

HULDA CAULP
Naw, I mean she's running fine.

DESTRI
We see the problem, Corporal.

EXT. BOGEN ASHLA – SPACEPORT – DAWN – DURING MONSOON

Ferrick's Scout Walker runs from an AT-AT behind it, slinging mud and scattering troops. The Imperial Walker is blasting away, Ferrick dodging each ERUPTION. Ferrick finds a clear path towards the saloon and runs faster. The Scout Walker's damaged leg servo gives out and the AT-ST crashes into the street, sliding towards the edge of the plateau before the mud piles up and brings it to a halt. The AT-AT marches forward and lines up a shot.

Then the *Meal Ticket* falls awkwardly INTO VIEW, trailing black smoke. The escape ship SLAMS into the AT-AT, which tumbles off the plateau into the rainforest below.

INT. GOVERNOR'S TOWER – FOYER - DAWN

Endigo enters and finds the emergency beacon, activates it, and drops it back into the potted plant. ISB Agents run into the foyer and open fire. Endigo quickly exits.

EXT. SPACE – ABOVE BOGEN ASHLA

The ISD *Atonement* arrives.

INT. STAR DESTROYER *ATONEMENT* – BRIDGE

Mede looks over to the tactical grid and sees the beacon.

MEDE
Get into range and then open fire.

EXT. GOVERNOR'S TOWER – DINING HALL – DAWN

Endigo is dodging blaster bolts as he makes for the Dining Hall balcony. He holds a hand up to his transceiver ear.

ENDIGO
Please tell me you're there, Hulda.

BRE (V.O.)
Hulda's busy, see? Jump anyway.

INT./EXT. BRE'S AIRSPEEDER – DAWN – DURING MONSOON

Inside, Bre reaches behind her and grabs the harpoon cable controls.

Outside, brief THUMP is heard as the harpoon fires.

EXT. GOVERNOR'S TOWER – BALCONY - DAWN – DURING MONSOON

A blaster bolt hits the Governor's wicker chair as Endigo clears the railing and leaps into the monsoon.

Bre's airspeeder swoops around the tower, its harpoon cable swinging out behind it. Endigo grabs the cable and holds on as the airspeeder zooms away into the distance.

Behind the airspeeder, the Governor's Tower EXPLODES as a TURBOLASER BOMBARDMENT BLAST strikes down from the heavens.

INT. BOGEN ASHLA – *MEAL TICKET* – DAWN

For a brief second the concave environmental holodisplay turns into WHITE SNOW. When it snaps back, the Governor's Tower is a polygonal crater. Hulda's eyes widen.

DESTRI
The monstrosity is in orbit, Ferrick. Demanding a surrender now would probably work.

FERRICK (V.O.)
I take it <u>all</u> back.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. BOGEN ASHLA – SPACEPORT – DAWN – DURING MONSOON

All fighting has stopped in the spaceport. Ferrick sits on top of the saloon, watching Imperial prisoners move in lines toward a landing *Refugee-One*.

Bre and Endigo walk over holding a tarp over their heads and look up at him. Beyond them, two AT-ATs stand lifeless.

FERRICK
<u>Noisier</u> than last time. You're not going to space them are you?

ENDIGO
No. Destri will take the Imps to a swamp sector and escape pod them out. Funny how many recruits you get three months later.

BRE
Coming with us?

FERRICK
I'm sorry for what I said.

BRE
Heard you the first time.

Ferrick slides down the saloon's curved roof and lands in the mud. He lets the rain pound his face.

FERRICK
No, this is home, I mean. They'll be coming back soon. We have a lot of work ahead of us before the Empire sorts everything out.

ENDIGO
We'll get Alliance High Command to send what help it can. Good luck, Ferrick.

Two-Tau approaches from the *Refugee-One*. Ferrick looks a little concerned until Bre smiles at the droid. Two-Tau raises a handcannon to Ferrick, who flinches a little.

TWO-TAU
Doshka impsu, choot?

BRE
Yeah, he's a good Imperial, too.

TWO-TAU
Tenta-onta!

BRE
Yep, like you. Miss me?

TWO-TAU
Tenta-onta!

Bre grabs the droid's gun barrel and starts to walk back to the *Refugee-One* with him. She tries to stay patient.

BRE
Yes. It <u>would</u> have made sense for you to come. But only if we had <u>known</u> it would have made sense for you to come.

TWO-TAU
Doht des?

BRE
(holding up a hand)
<u>Swear</u>. Okay?

Ferrick and Endigo shake hands. Endigo exits after Bre.

EXT. SPACE – NEAR BOGEN ASHLA

The *Meal Ticket* pulls away from the *Atonement* as the *Refugee-One* begins to dock.

INT. STAR DESTROYER *ATONEMENT* – BRIDGE

Mede is still standing in the same space when Destri and Hulda enter. Bridge Officers CLAP, stopping only to salute their Captain as she passes. Mede looks at Destri and nods.

DESTRI
You look tired, sir. I'll take the bridge. I'll wake you when we get to Dantooine. Hyperdrives on my mark, everyone.
(beat)
Mark.

The stars outside become white streaks. Mede smiles and moves away, patting Hulda on the shoulder as he enters the turbolift elevator and finally exits.

EXT. SPACE - UNKNOWN SECTOR – ON *GAMMA* ASSAULT SHUTTLE

as the ISB vessel speeds towards Coruscant.

INT. ISB *GAMMA* ASSAULT SHUTTLE – INTERROGATION CHAMBER

Governor Attrebus is strapped to an interrogation chair, its electrodes and heat needles FLARING. As the back of the chair lowers into the needles, searing SPARKS crawl across the Governor's face. He SCREAMS. Kaslei enters.

ISB AGENT KASLEI
Attrebus. Consider the situation here. Your appointment to Bogen Ashla as regional governor.... Start at the beginning, whenever you are able.

IRIS OUT.

THE END